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Message Text

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11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-05 IO-10 /079 W
---------- 119975
R 010812Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3101

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, HU
SUBJ: CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA

1. BILATERAL RELATIONS WERE AT CENTER OF DISCUSSION DURING AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON FONMIN PUJA PARIL 26. AMBASSADOR INFORMED PUJA OF HIS MARCH 31 CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT FORD (SEE SEPTEL RE AMERICANS CAPTURED AT BAN ME THUOT) DURING WHICH PRESIDENT HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WISHED TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH GOH TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION LIMITATIONS (GEOGRAPHIC, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC) AND OBJECTIVE REALITY. MCAULIFFE ASSURED FONMIN THAT HE WOULD DO EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO CARRY OUT THOSE INSTRUCTIONS.

2. PUJA EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT HEARING OF USG DESIRE TO CONTINUE TREND TOWARDS NORMALIZATION. HE ASSURED MCAULIFFE THAT GOH ALSO DEVOTED TO THIS PROCESS. FONMIN CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT TO EMPHASIZE POSITIVE RATHER THAN NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF U.S.-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS. THERE WERE TIMES, HE SAID, WHEN HUNGARIANS, "LOOKING REALISTICALLY" AT THEIR RELATIONS WITH WEST, CONCLUDED THAT GREATER PROGRESS BEING MADE IN EVOLUTION OF RELATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, LARGE AND SAMLL ALIKE, THAN WITH U.S. GOH THOUGHT IT LUDICROUS THAT ITS RELATIONS WITH U.S., A SUPER POWER, SHOULD LAG BEHIND THOSE WITH WEST EUROPEAN
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COUNTRIES. CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON TRADE BILL HAD COME

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AS GREAT SURPRISE AND KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT TO AUTHORITIES
IN BUDAPEST. HOWEVER, GOH IS NOT IMPATIENT AND WISHES TO
CONTINUE TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY IN RELATIONS WITH U.S.
AFTER AMBASSADOR HAD PRESENTED CREDENTIALS AND GOTTEN
HIMSELF SETTLED, FONMIN WOULD BE HAPPY TO SIT DOWN WITH
HIM AND GO OVER BILATERAL PROBLEMS ONE BY ONE. HE
EXPLICITLY INVITED MCAULIFFE TO CALL ON HIM WHENEVER HE
WAS READY TO DISCUSS BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. MCAULIFFE THANKED FONMIN FOR HIS INVITATION AND SAID
HE WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO THAT OCCASION. HE SAID BOTH
COUNTRIES WHILE LOOKING FORWARD TO MORE CONSTRUCTIVE AND
MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONS IN THE FUTURE CANNOT IGNORE
VERY CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS MADE IN RECENT YEARS DURING
TENURE OF AMBASSADOR PEDERSEN AND THAT OF AMBASSADOR
SZABO. (PUJA DEMURRED SAYING ONLY SMALL GAINS REGISTERED
IN PAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS.) MCAULIFFE CONTINUED SAYING
THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES
WITH DIFFERENT POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS
WAS ALSO AFFECTED, POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY, BY
DEVELOPMENTS IN MULTILATERAL FORA--CSCE AND MBFR TO
NAME BUT TWO--SINCE THOSE EVENTS ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO CURRENT
OBJECTIVE POLITICAL REALITY. MCAULIFFE SAID THAT U.S.
WELCOMES IMPROVEMENT OF HUNGARY'S BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH
ITS WESTERN EUROPEAN NEIGHBORS AS PART OF DETENTE PROCESS;
ON OTHER HAND, FROM HIS OWN RECENT, PERSONAL, FIRST-HAND
KNOWLEDGE OF WESTERN EUROPEAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS HE
KNEW--AS DID FONMIN PUJA--THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN OTHER
SUPER-POWER AND NATIONS OF WESTERN EUROPE HAD NOT AND
WERE NOT EVOLVING IN TOTALLY UNIFORM MANNER. HE SAID THAT
U.S. AND HUNGARY, HAVING EMERGED FROM PERIOD OF CONFRONTATION,
ARE NOW IN PHASE OF ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP BROADER AND
DEEPER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AT MANY LEVELS. THERE HAS
BEEN CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN RECENT YEARS; BUT THERE ARE
STILL ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE IDENTIFIED, DEFINED,
PRIORITISED AND ADDRESSED. HE AGREED THAT TIME HAS COME
TO SIT DOWN AND TALK OVER BILATERAL MATTERS QUIETLY, AND
TO SET UP A PRIORITY LIST SATISFACTORY TO BOTH PARTIES
AS WE SEEK TO FIND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE WAYS TO EXPAND AND
IMPROVE RELATIONS.
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4. MEETING LASTING SLIGHTLY OVER 45 MINUTES WAS CORDIAL
THROUGHOUT. MEMCON FOLLOWS BY POUCH.
MCAULIFFE

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